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August 22, 2001
LAW OFFICES OF JONATHAN ALAN QUINE

1631
Attorney Docket No: 02-028950US

Client Ref: 0124.610US

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Sergey A. Selifonov

Application No.: 09/618,579

Filed: July 18, 2000

For: METHODS FOR MAKING
CHARACTER STRINGS,
POLYNUCLEOTIDES AND POLYPEPTIDES
HAVING DESIRED CHARACTERISTICS

Examiner: Zhou, S

Art Unit: 1631

Interview Summary

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This interview summary is provided pursuant to MPEP 713.04 and Form PTOL-413.

On August 8, 2001, Applicants' undersigned representative, Sharon Fujita (Associate Chief Patent Counsel for Applicants) and Examiners S. Zhou and A. Marschel met to discuss the case. Applicants representative discussed the invention and the Examiners helpfully clarified that the main issue with respect to the Zhao reference was mainly one of claim language, i.e., that it should be clarified that the character strings referred to were representational, rather than actual nucleic acids. Applicants' undersigned representative agreed to amend the claims to clarify this point and to prepare an appropriate response addressing the issue in detail in Applicants' next response. Applicants' undersigned representative thanks the Examiners for the courteous and productive interview.

Applicants are providing this Applicants' Interview Summary in response to the Interview Summary (and unchecked Box 1) of August 8, 2001. As such, Applicants are responding within the ONE MONTH provided by the Interview Summary.

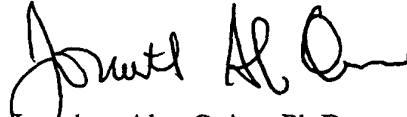


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Plunkett
8/31/01

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 510-337-7871.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Jonathan Alan Quine', written in dark ink.

Jonathan Alan Quine, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 41,261